

Compton HB 6519

My name is Mary Compton. I live at 14 Mather Street, Hamden, CT. I'm a concerned citizen about genetically modified foods and their safety. There are many questions about GMOs that have not been answered. GMO's are made with herbicides that have not been documented as safe to consume. Common sense would tell us that ingesting herbicides is poisonous to our bodies as well as to the land.

This concerns me deeply now and for future generations.

We have a right to know what kind of foods we are ingesting and purchasing. We have a right to be able to find food in our community grocery stores that is not genetically modified. Labeling foods as genetically modified is important and vital information for the health of all citizens. Citizens have a right to choose what they eat and we have a right to know what it is we are actually eating.

Valid and quantifiable research on genetically modified organisms is lacking especially when large companies such as Monsanto provide funding for research in genetically modified organisms. Their findings are skewed to the product they wish to create, and research is not followed up for further studies.

Research is expensive and requires research facilities. Genetically modified organisms are a new level of plant technology that warrants scientific and documented studies that the public can be engaged and educated in before seeds are sold and fields planted with crops that have herbicides in their genes. Environment damage, health consequences and disease related to ingesting herbicides are unacceptable. Companies, such as Monsanto have a monopoly on growing large quantities of GMO crops; corn, soybeans, and sugar beets. Sugar beets are used in the manufacture of sugar, and corn in the manufacture of corn syrup, both of these products are in almost every food product sold in grocery stores. We have been eating foods that have GMO's without our knowledge – what is the undocumented cost to us in our health and environment?

I urge you to support for HB 6519, An Act Concerning the Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food.

The choice of the foods we eat is our decision – we should know what is in our food, how it is made, and where it comes from – we are after all paying for it.

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